सुरक्षा सलाहकार के जरिए किया जाता है और सामरिक नीति ग्रुप और राष्ट्रीय सलाहकार बोर्ड की सदस्यता अब अधिक व्यापक और चुनिंदा है । इस नये स्वरूप में देश द्वारा सामना की जा रही समकालीन वास्तविकताओं और चुनौतियों को ध्यान में रखा गया है ।

(ड.) देश के महत्पूर्ण हितों को समग्र व समन्वित तरीके से बढ़ाना ही इस राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा परिषद के दृष्टिकोण का मूल आधार होगा ।

Discontentment among Navy officers

2651. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of serious discontentment among the senior officers of navy about the personnel policy being followed by Administration;

(b) the number of complaints received from the officers regarding their promotion which are pending;

(c) the number of cases pending in the courts; and

(d) what action Government have taken to redress the grievances of the officers many of whom are suffering silently?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There has been some discontentment in the Navy in relation to postings and promotions of officers in the recent past.

(b) Four statutory complaints are pending with Government concerning promotion of officers.

(c) According to information furnished by Naval Headquarters, 34 cases are pending in various courts.

(d) All redressal of grievances applications received by the Government are carefully examined by the Government and decisions taken in accordance with established law, rules and norms.

Upgradation of MIG planes

2652. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "India shelves plan to upgrade MIGs", as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 18th November, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the upgradation plans of MIGs of the IAF have been further delayed;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensures upgradation of MIGs in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. However, there is no truth in the Press Report.

(b) and (c) As per the original plan the upgradation work was to be completed by 2002. The same has been delayed by a year due to delay in completion of design & development work on the aircraft, by the Russians.

(d) During the 5th Indo-Russian Technical Co'operation Meeting held in November, 1998 a Protocol has been signed with the Russians to the effect that design and development work on the aircraft would be completed by July 1999. The other important areas affecting the progress of the upgradation programme have also been resolved to ensure the implementation of the programme in a time bound manner as per the revised schedule. The issue of transfer of technology for upgradation of MIG aircraft is being taken up at a government to government level.

Indo-US Talks

2653. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the Indo-US talks USA has insisted on knowing the locations etc. of India's nuclear weapons;

(b) if so, whether this has proved to be an hurdle in the progress of talks; and